

III. REMARKS

1. Claims 1-17 remain in the application. Claims 1, 6-8, 11-14, and 16 have been amended.
2. Applicants appreciate the indication that claim 9 is allowed.
3. Applicants respectfully submit that claims 1-5, 7, 8, and 10 are patentable over the combination of Bass (US 5,896,574) in view of Knighton et al. (US 6,032,866, "Knighton") under 35 USC 103(a).

The combination of Bass and Knighton fails to disclose or suggest transmitting data between the data communication device and the wireless device so that the data communication device operates as an ordinary expansion memory from the view point of the electronic device and the electronic device communicates with the data communication device as an expansion memory, as recited by claims 1, 7, and 8.

Bass describes a wireless modem mounted in PCMCIA slots. In column 4, lines 63-65 Bass discloses that the baseband card "looks to the PCMCIA bus as an I/O card type." Thus, from the electronic device point of view, the wireless modem operates like an I/O card, and not like an ordinary expansion memory. Regardless of whether the wireless modem has additional memory, from the viewpoint of the electronic device, the wireless modem operates as an I/O device. In contrast, the present claims state the data communication device operates as an ordinary expansion memory from the view point of the electronic device.

Knighton describes a foldable device that may connect to a PCMCIA slot. While the reference mainly refers to a foldable optical reader, column 6, line 42 discloses that the device may be a memory. However, there is simply no disclosure related to a data communication device that operates as an ordinary expansion memory from the viewpoint of the electronic device in which it is installed.

Therefore, the combination of Bass and Knighton fails to disclose or suggest this portion of claims 1, 7, and 8.

Furthermore, Bass fails to disclose or suggest that the electronic device communicates with the data communication device as an expansion memory. In fact, Bass teaches away from this feature by stating that the baseband card "looks to the PCMCIA bus as an I/O card type."

Knighton has no disclosure related to a data communication device, let alone an electronic device that communicates with the data communication device as an expansion memory.

Therefore, the combination of Bass and Knighton fails to disclose or suggest all the features of independent claims 1, 7, and 8 and therefore fails to render independent claims 1, 7, and 8, and dependent claims 2-5 and 10 unpatentable.

4. Applicants respectfully submit that claim 6 is patentable over the combination of Bass in view of Nakajima et al. (US 6,085,225, "Nakajima") and Knighton under 35 USC 103(a).

The combination of Bass, Nakajima, and Knighton fails to disclose or suggest transmitting data between the data communication device and the wireless device so that the data

communication device operates as an ordinary expansion memory from the view point of the electronic device, and the electronic device communicates with the data communication device as an expansion memory, as recited by claim 6.

Nakajima fails to supply the features missing from Bass and Knighton argued above, that is: transmitting data between the data communication device and the wireless device so that the data communication device operates as an ordinary expansion memory from the view point of the electronic device, and so that the electronic device communicates with the data communication device as an expansion memory.

Therefore, claim 6 is patentable over the combination of Bass, Nakajima, and Knighton.

5. Applicants respectfully submit that claims 11-17 are patentable over the combination of Bass, Knighton, and Okaue et al. (US 6,170,743, "Okaue") under 35 USC 103(a).

5.1 The combination of Bass, Knighton, and Okaue fails to disclose or suggest a communication device for wireless data communication that is arranged to mount into a general purpose expansion memory location of an electronic device, where the communication device is arranged to operate as an ordinary expansion memory from the viewpoint of the electronic device, and the electronic device, and where the electronic device communicates with the data communication device as an expansion memory, as recited by claims 11, 12, and 17.

The combination of Bass and Knighton fails to disclose or suggest these features for the reasons argued above.

Okaue discloses a memory card with an erroneous erase prevention switch.

However, like the other cited references, Okaue fails to disclose or suggest a communication device for wireless data communication that is arranged to mount into a general purpose expansion memory location of an electronic device, where the communication device is arranged to operate as an ordinary expansion memory from the viewpoint of the electronic device, and the electronic device, and where the electronic device communicates with the data communication device as an expansion memory.

5.2 The combination of Bass, Knighton, and Okaue also fails to disclose or suggest circuitry that operates during an LPRF-data transmission to prevent another process from changing the first and second memories as recited by claim 13.

Neither Bass nor Knighton has any disclosure related to preventing memory changes during LPRF transmission.

Okaue discloses a memory card 2 with an erase prevention switch 23. A host computer reads a register indicating the status of the switch 23 before writing a file to the memory card. As part of the reading process, the contents of the register are "transmitted" to the host computer as shown in Figure 5, step 11. If the erase prevention switch is on writing is prevented.

There is nothing whatsoever related to LPRF data transmission in Okaue, and more specifically, nothing related to circuitry that operates during an LPRF-data transmission to prevent another process from changing the first and second memories. Okaue only

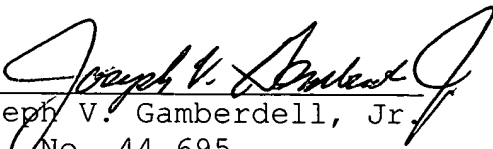
discloses reading the status of a switch and preventing a write operation if the switch is on.

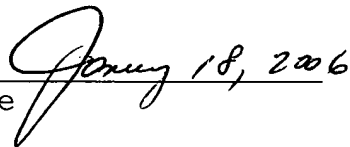
At least for these reasons, Applicants submit that independent claims 11, 12, 13, and 16, and dependent claims 14, 15, and 17 are patentable over the combination of Bass, Knighton, and Okaue.

For all of the foregoing reasons, it is respectfully submitted that all of the claims now present in the application are clearly novel and patentable over the prior art of record, and are in proper form for allowance. Accordingly, favorable reconsideration and allowance is respectfully requested. Should any unresolved issues remain, the Examiner is invited to call Applicants' attorney at the telephone number indicated below.

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Respectfully submitted,


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